Proposal to Treat Animal Husbandry at par with farming

*232. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to treat animal husbandry at par with farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) Animal Husbandry is a State subject. Accordingly, it is for the individual States to take a view in this regard.

Deaths due to tobacco consumption

*233. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumption of tobacco has increased in the country inspite of the efforts made by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how many tobacco related deaths took place in the country during last three years, year-wise; and

(d) what steps are being taken to see that the younger generation abstains from the consumption of tobacco?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS 3 2005-06), 57% Male & 10.8% Female consume some form of tobacco. NFHS 2 (1998-99) had indicated 46.5% male and 13.9% female prevalence. However, since the methodology adopted for the two surveys are different, it is difficult to provide an exact estimate of change in tobacco prevalence.

No such specific data regarding the death due to tobacco year-wise is being maintained Centrally. However, as per the Report of Tobacco Control 2004, every year approximately 8-9 lakhs people die due to tobacco related illness and 50% cancer related death is attributable to tobacco consumption.

The Government of India has enacted the "Cigarettes and other tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003, mainly to discourage consumption of tobacco products. Some of the important provisions of the act are:

(i) Prohibition of smoking in a public place.

(ii) Prohibition of direct and indirect advertisement of cigarette and other tobacco products.

(iii) Prohibition of sale of cigarette and other tobacco products to a person below the age of eighteen years.

(iv) Prohibition of sale of tobacco products near the educational institutions.